

Australian Red Cross Society Wounded and Missing  
Enquiry Bureau files, 1914-18 War  
1DRL/0428

**3522 Sergeant  
Herbert Arthur Buck**

**59th Battalion**



0610205E

A.I.P. 59.

X. 16.10.18.

BUCK H.A . 3522.

Buck was a Sgt. We were at Passchendaele. He got a slight wound and was taken to the 1st. Aid Post where they were very busy. Buck offered to stay there the night on account of this and on the next morning when they were going to take him out of the dug-out in which the 1st. A.P. was, a shell landed right in the doorway and killed him and the M.O. The Aid Post was a concrete pill-box. Buck died immediately. These particulars were collected at our H.Q. about a fortnight ago.

RCP.

Reference: Lt.D.W. Fair.  
L.G. School.

Staples.  
29.7.18.

A.I.F. 59.

BUCK, H.A. 3522.

K. Oct 16th 1917. Dets.

I knew him well, We were both in the 101st Battn and came from Egypt together. I do not know his initials or number. He was Cpl. in another company when killed, and was about 5ft 9", dark, well built, age about 26. The Battn went into the line at Tokyo Ridge, Ypres early in October. and was there about 10 days. I was not near Buck when he was killed, but he was first wounded while in the trench and was carried to a pill-box and was being dressed there by the doctor when a shell fell and killed them both, - The pill-box being ~~open~~ on the enemy side. - I cannot remember specially anyone who gave me the above details, as I heard it from several men. Also that Buck and others, who were killed, were buried on the Tokyo Ridge by our  <sup>padre</sup> ~~Battn~~ ~~in the trench~~ Captain Nye (left the Battn about 6 months ago) close to where they fell.

Inf: L/Cpl. W.E. Bright. 4722. D.HQ.  
No. 3 Can Gen Hosp.

BOULOGNE. 12.8.1918. L de D

59th Battn.  
A.I.F.

BUCK.  
H.A. 3522.

"Killed 16-10-17"

He was of C. Company. . Was L/Sgt. In October at T<sup>his</sup> Ridge, Ypres Sector, he was coming back from front line to rear supports when wounded in both legs by shell. I saw him on stretcher - was conscious and quite cheerful. He was taken to R.A.P. about 50 yards from rear supports. This R.A.P. was a Pill Box. He was made comfortable for the night, as there was a scarcity of 3/Bs. Shell hit this Pill Box and both Buck and Major Bullen 15th A.M.C. were killed. Lieut<sup>ant</sup> Bullen died of wounds. Buck was killed outright. Sgt Major Richardson of D.C.C. and an A.M.C. man, who helped to get him cut of debris told me what happened at the R.A.P. Know nothing of burial.

Informant:- Pte. J.H. Nolan. 2286.

Note:- Written Sgt Maj Richardson. 59th Battn. C.C. H.Q.  
15-8-18. HAREFIELD.

A.D.G.  
London.  
16-8-18.  
N.W.

M.

A. I. F. 59.

BUCK. H.A. 3522.

K. October 16th, 1917.

I didn't see Buck of C.XI., killed by a shell at Passchendaele at night. He got wounded in the afternoon by a H.E. shell in legs and body and was carried to a pill box which was being used as R.A.P. Fritz was shelling heavily at the time and he was kept for the night at R.A.P. but during the evening Major Bullen(M.O). was leaning on the stretcher on which he lying and a shell burst and killed them both instantly. Sgt. Coopley of 15th. Fld. Amb. was there with 59th. Battrn. and was there when Buck was killed. He will also know about burial. He (Sgt. Coopley) is now with 15th. Fld.Amb.

I knew Buck well in South Gippsland, though I dont know where he enlisted. He was a good lump of a chap, very well built, a good boxer; he was the only Buck in the Coy. and had just been promoted Sgt.

RBH.

Informant:- Cpl. P.C.Willmore. 160.

59.C.XII.

3 Aust.Gen.Hosp.

Abbeville.24.8.18.

59th Battalion.  
A.I.F.

BUCK.  
H.A. 3522.

"Killed 16-10-17"

If the Red Cross wrote to Cpl Wally S. Crozier (59.C.) now in Training Battalion Colford, Wilts, I feel sure that he could give particulars about Sgt Buck as he was with him last October and I have often heard him talk of him. I was not there myself.

Eye-Witness:- No.

Description:- Tall and dark.

Home address:-

57 Spencer Road.  
St Kilda.  
Victoria.

Informant:- Holland, Walter, H.L. 4800 Pte.

59th Battalion A.I.F. c. 27

3rd Southern General Hpl.  
The Base. OXFORD.

H.M. Pichard-Cambridge.  
London.  
26-8-18.  
J.E.A.

- M.

Note:- Written Cpl Crozier 26-8-18.

59th Battn.  
A.I.F.

H.G.

BUCK.  
3522.

"Killed in Action 16-10-17"

The above soldier was wounded when returning from a ration party (front line) on the night of the 16th October 1917, and was carried to the Regimental Aid Post and dressed. He was to be taken out but owing to the darkness and state of the country he told the M.C. that he would rather stop there the night and save the S/Bs the walk in the dark. Later that night, the R.A.P. was hit by a shell and Sgt Buck and the M.C. were killed. This was on the Ypres front to the left and in front of Polygon Wood and was known as Tackio Ridge. He was buried by one of the other company's S/Bs, close handy but where I cannot ascertain.

Letter from:- E.A. Richardson, 3902 G.S.M.  
G.S.M. 59th A.I.F.  
FRANCE. 26-8-18.

London.  
4-9-18.  
H.T.

M.

59th Battn late  
6th Battn.  
A.I.F.

BUCK.  
Sgt. H.A. 3522.

"Killed in Action 16-10-17"

Re the death of Pte Buck who was killed on Oct 16th 1917. This man was wounded on that date and was taken back to the dressing station a few miles back where the Doctor was attending to him and a shell came over killing both him and the Doctor. His number was 3522 but he was a Sergeant when killed. He was a well built chap, dark curly hair and medium height. Sgt Buck was buried in the Poperinghe Cemetery which is a French Cemetery but there were dozens of our boys buried there. This man's number and name was No 3522. Sgt. Herbert A. Buck. 59th Battn. A.I.F. C. Coy.

Letter from: - Cpl Crozier. N.T.  
CODEFORD. 29-8-18.

London.  
9-9-18.  
N.T.

M.

A.I.F. 59th Battn.

BUCK  
H.A. 3522

Killed in action 16.10.17

Buried Sh. 28 N.E.J.4.b.90.60.  
Lt Sneddings List.

London  
19.5.19

M



59th Btn.

EUCK. H. A.  
Pte. 3522.

2. in act. 16/10/17.

"I knew Casualty. He was a well built man, about 5 ft. 9 ins. medium complexion, about 25 years of age, known as "Herbert" Casualty was in the support lines at Polygon Wood, Ypres Sector. He was going on a ration party to the front line and on the return journey he was wounded by a small piece of shell in the leg. He walked to the Dressing Station about 300 yds. in the rear of supports and while he was there waiting to get his wound dressed an H.E. shell landed on the Dressing Station, killing him and the Doctor. I do not know where he was buried."

Informant:- Sgt. H. Thurler.  
No. 19207 59th Btn.

Private address:-  
Rusmore Street,  
Northcote.

H.A.T.  
6/6/19.

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS INFORMATION BUREAU-MELBOURNE.

SC

To  
S/M. Richardson  
C. Co. A. M. C.  
59th Batt  
A. I. F

Almont  
3522 Pt H. A. Buck  
59th Batt  
A. I. F

K Oct-16/17

Written 15.8.18

Mrt

HOSPITAL North War Room

Fill in exactly as List.	SURNAME.	Christian Name.	Regtl.No.	Ra
	Blaes	A. A	4508	
	SURNAME	Christian Name.	Regtl.No.	Ra
	Evans	F. J	629	

**STATEMENT**

(to be taken

**N.E.**  
In all  
cases  
state  
fully  
what  
inform-  
ant says  
he saw  
or heard  
and give  
**DATE**  
**AND**  
**PLACE**  
of  
occu-  
rence.

3

A R. Black who has been  
badly wounded in a street  
at Morlaix county on  
taken to Hill, C.C. &  
not actually see him  
called for Stralder to  
see him

**PLEASE ALSO ANSWER**

- |  |                             |                                     |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Was Informant an Eye-Witness?   | No.                         | 2. If not, of the _____             |
| 3. Was the ground held or lost?  | held                        | 4. If Informant was (a) was (b) was |
| 5. Did Informant know Christian Name, Initials or No. of man enquired about?           | Yes                         | 6. Was the name _____               |
| 7. Give Informant's description of man enquired about—any nickname, marks, scars, etc. | dark skin, 5' 8" tall, etc. |                                     |
| 8. Searcher's opinion of Informant's accuracy and intelligence                         | Reliable                    |                                     |

**Reports should always be written very clearly in ink, or typewritten.**

3522  
H. G. Buck  
59 Batta  
Killed 18.10.17

C. Coy  
59th Bn. A.I.F.  
France  
26/8/18.

To. Secretary  
Australian Red Cross.

Re. 3522. Sgt. H. G. Buck (Killed in Action)

The above soldier was wounded when returning from a Ration Party (front line) on the night of the 16th of October 17. & was carried to the Regimental Aid Post and dressed. He was to be taken out but owing to the darkness & state of the country he told the M.O. that he would rather stop there the night and save the Stretcher Bearers the walk in the dark. Later that night the R.A.P. was hit by a shell and Sgt Buck & the M.O. were killed. This was on the Ypres front to the left & in front of Polygon Wood & was known as Tokio Ridge. He was buried by one of the other company's Stretcher Bearers close handy but where I cannot ascertain.

Noting this information will be of some use

No. 3902.

British Expeditionary Force

3522  
H. G. Buck

59 Balm

K. W. D. 18.10.17

S. Gay

59th Bn. A.S.F.

France

26/5/18.

M  
2 (cc)

To: Secretary

Australian Red Cross.

Re. 3522. Sgt. W. A. Buck (Killed in Action)

The above soldier was wounded when returning from a Ration Party (front line) on the night of the 16th of October 17. & was carried to the Regimental Aid Post and dressed. He was to be taken out but owing to the darkness & state of the country he told the M.O. that he would rather stop there the night and save the Stretcher Bearers the walk in the dark. Later that night the S.A.P. was hit by a shell and Sgt Buck & the M.O. were killed. This was on the upper front to the left & in front of Polygon Wood & was known as Loko Ridge. He was buried by one of the other company's Stretcher Bearers close handy but where I cannot ascertain.

Hoping this information will be of some use  
Yours sincerely  
W. 3902. E. Richardson Esq.

42  
To  
Cpl Wally S. Crozier  
C. Co  
59th Battery -  
15 Training Battery  
Cordford  
Wills

about  
3522 H. A. Beech  
59th Battery  
A. I. F

K Oct 16/17

Written 28.8.18  
MRF.

# FRONT France

IN AS TO

Battalion and Regiment.	Co.	Platoon	Casualty.
27 Battalion AIF			On June 10/18

BY

Battalion and Regiment.	Co.	Platoon	Home Address.
27 Battalion AIF	D	H Q.	Flannay St Largo S. Aus

## INFORMANT

(in first person).

27. C) - He was my best pal, and I went to his H.Q. and also saw all could tell me what happened to him. wards his equipment was found. He and tried to get back to a D.S. but no one might over all the possibilities. He may and carried on. Then left his equipment forward to reconnaissance & been captured. I am he must have been killed by a shell trying to all, but all those who were hit were accounted for. That day (about June 10) - we were 200 yds further off ourselves in. The Germans were not far off.

## THE FOLLOWING:

give name, number, etc., I made all possible enquiries & heard the above. No one could give the name of the man who told him. name of the man who saw him wounded

Informant says a man was killed.  
Is death instantaneous?  
Is the body buried, & if so where?

Were any other man of same in Co. or Battalion?

no other

Is night engaged. 12 reinforcements.

Signature of Sender } Frederic M. Richard Cambridge

Date of Report 15<sup>th</sup> Aug. 1918

H. & Beck Sgt

3522✓

Herbert Arthur Kni A ~~6th~~ 59 Batta

late 6 Batta

16/10/17. #. 36.9.18.

What was rank of this soldier

SE

Reph See 3.9.18



~~Waddell. F. M. 3. Clonoughy  
Gillies  
Portadown~~

~~For 2707~~

~~Pte George Leslie Young  
39 Batt. 7th Brigade  
Australian Field Artillery~~

3522  
H. A. ~~Herbert~~ Buck Sglt  
59 Delta lat 6 Balto  
K mi A 6/10/17

Godford

20/8/18

M  
2 (C)

Dear Miss Dearbin,

In answer to your letter inquiring about the death of Pte. Buck who was killed on Oct 16/1917 this man was wounded on that date & was taken back to the dressing station a few miles back where the Doctor was attending to him and a shell came over killing both him & the Doctor. His number was 3522 but he was a Sergeant when killed. He was a well built chap dark curly hair & medium height. Sgt Buck was buried in the Toppinghe Cemetery which is a French Cemetery but there were dozens of our boys buried there.

P.S. This man's number & name was

NO 3522  
Sgt Herbert A. Buck  
59 Bn  
B. Coy.

I remain

Yours faithfully  
Cpl Crozier W.G.